(a) whether any project titled India ICDS-IV is being prepared with the assistance from the World Bank;

(b) if so, the brief outline of the project, alongwith the details of financial assistance;

(c) whether the project has been finalized;

(d) if so, whether Anganwadi Federation and Central Trade Unions have been consulted on the project outlined and the implementation thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has negotiated with the World Bank for the International Development Association (IDA) support to the next phase of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme, viz. ICDS-IV Project, which is currently at the preparation stage. The proposed Project will have two major components viz. Nutrition and Early Childhood Education (ECE). The World Bank has indicated an assistance of US$ 450 million with US $ 250 million for the Nutrition Component and remaining US $ 200 million for the ECE Component.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Cheap and diluted system in SSA

961. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether SSA is nothing but a cut-rate system of education where focus is on doing everything cheap and standards have been diluted for practically everything, from ratio of teachers to a school to curiculum that is offered;

(b) whether elementary education is now reduced to eight years instead of 12, which the experts say is absolutely essential for children to find a right career;

(c) whether, in SSA, there are no teachers put para teachers-ill-qualified, people, unemployed village youth, who get a pittance and are termed as Shiksha Karmis, etc; and

(d) if so, the changes proposed in the SSA, to make it more focused and result-oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme which aims to achieve the objective of universalisation of elementary education, is being implemented in all districts of all States/UTs of the country with sharing of funds between the Central and the State/UT Governments. Teacher recruitment and curriculum, which are State subjects, are done/implemented as per respective State/UT-specific policies.

(b) As per the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986(as modified in 1992), a common educational structure 10+2+3 is envisaged. Regarding further break-up of the first 10 years, NPE provides that "efforts will be made to move towards an elementary system comprising

5 years of primary education and three years of upper primary, followed by 2 years of High School. Efforts will also be made to have the +2 stage accepted as a part of the school education throughout the country". Thus, the elementary education system comprises of eight years of schooling as per the postulates of NPE, 1986 as modified in 1992.

(c) and (d) As per District Information System for Education (DISE) 2006-07 data, out of 52.18 lakh teachers at elementary level only 9.86% are para teachers.

Education to all children under SSA

962. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) by when all the children in the country are to be provided education under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) the number of children educated as on date, State-wise;

(c) the target set and achievements made in regard to teacher-student ratio, construction of school buildings, drinking water, mid-day meal and teacher training under this scheme, during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the allocation made by Government to each State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The aim of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is to provide useful and relevant elementary education of satisfactory quality to all children in the 6 to 14 age group so as to achieve Universal Elementary Education by 2010. All children in the 6-14 age group in the country have been brought in the ambit of elementary education except 70 lakh out-of-school children (as on 31.03.2007), who represent the difficult to reach category. **Data for** State-wise **enrolment in the elementary state** for the year 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement- (See below)

(c) and (d) Teacher-student ratios and release of Central funds during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 & 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement-II (*See* below) targets and achievements for construction of school buildings and drinking water facilities given in the enclosed Statement-III (*See* below) and targets and achievements under teachers training given in the enclosed Statement-IV (*See* below). State-wise number of children covered durings 2004-05, 2005-06 & 2006-07 under Mid-day meal scheme is given in the enclosed Statement-V.

Statement-I

State wise enrolment during 2004-05

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of students enrolled		
		Classes I-V	Classes VI-VIII	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7692411	3643030	11335441
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	184673	59670	244343